

## REMARKS

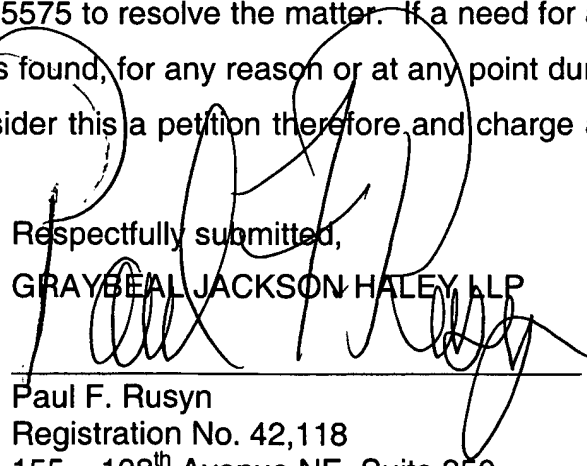
Claims 2-10 are currently pending in the present patent application, with claim 1 having been cancelled through the above claim amendments.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 2, and 6 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,368,988 to Li *et al.* ("Li") and claims 1-5 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over European Patent Application EP 1 168 427 A1 ("EP") and rejected claim 6 as being unpatentable over EP in view of Li. Note that the Li patent may not properly be applied against the present application as prior art under Section 102(b) since this patent did not issue more than one year before the priority date of the present application (Li issued April 9, 2002 and the present application is entitled to a priority date of October 11, 2002). The same is true of the EP reference.

The Examiner indicated claims 7-10 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Dependent claim 7 has been rewritten in independent form and is therefore now in condition for allowance. These amendments do not narrow the overall scope of claim 7 or the scope of any of the individual elements of this claim. Claims 8-10 depend from claim 7 and are therefore also allowable. Claims 2-6 as amended now depend either directly or indirectly from allowable independent claim 7 and are accordingly allowable.

The present patent application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and a Notice of Allowance are respectfully requested. Should the Examiner have any further questions about the application, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to contact the undersigned attorney at (425) 455-5575 to resolve the matter. If a need for any fee in addition to that paid with this response is found, for any reason or at any point during the prosecution of this application, kindly consider this a petition therefore and charge any necessary fees to Deposit Account 07-1897.

Respectfully submitted,  
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